

Vital Statistics Report Lancaster County, Nebraska 1998

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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INTRODUCTION

This is the twenty-first annual Lancaster County Vital Statistics Report published by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. This report contains vital statistics data for the 1998 calendar year. In addition to birth and death statistics, this report contains 1998 marriage and divorce data for Lancaster County. Information contained in this report was compiled from the vital records of the State of Nebraska and furnished to Lancaster County by the Section of Data Management, Nebraska Health and Human Services System.

Historical data, Year 2000 Objectives, and data for Nebraska have been used where relevant to show trends and comparisons. Birth and mortality rates are calculated using population estimates from the U.S. Census. The 1998 population of Lancaster County was estimated at 235,589.

Data provided by the Nebraska Birth Defects Registry were used to examine trends of congenital anomalies and their distribution by age and race of the mother. The Ninth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) was used in classifying the causes of death.

Appreciation is expressed to the Nebraska Health and Human Services System, Section of Data Management for providing the data upon which this report is based.

BIRTH STATISTICS

BIRTH RATE

In 1998, the crude birth rate for Lancaster County was 14.4 per 1000 population. This represents an absolute decrease of 0.5 per 1000 from 1988 to 1998. The 1998 crude birth rate for Nebraska was 14.3 per 1000 population.

Figure 1 illustrates the birth rate trends for Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska from 1980 to 1998.

FERTILITY RATE

The Lancaster County fertility rate (births per 1000 women age 15 to 44) for 1998 was 54.9, a similar rate to the past decade's average, 54.6 (Figure 2).

TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS

A total of 3388 live births were recorded among Lancaster County women in 1998. This number is consistent with the gradual increase in annual births that have occurred since 1988, when there were 2968 births.

Lincoln residents represented 94.2% of all live births, with 5.8% distributed among Lancaster County residents outside the Lincoln city limits. The most frequent month of birth was December (Table 1).

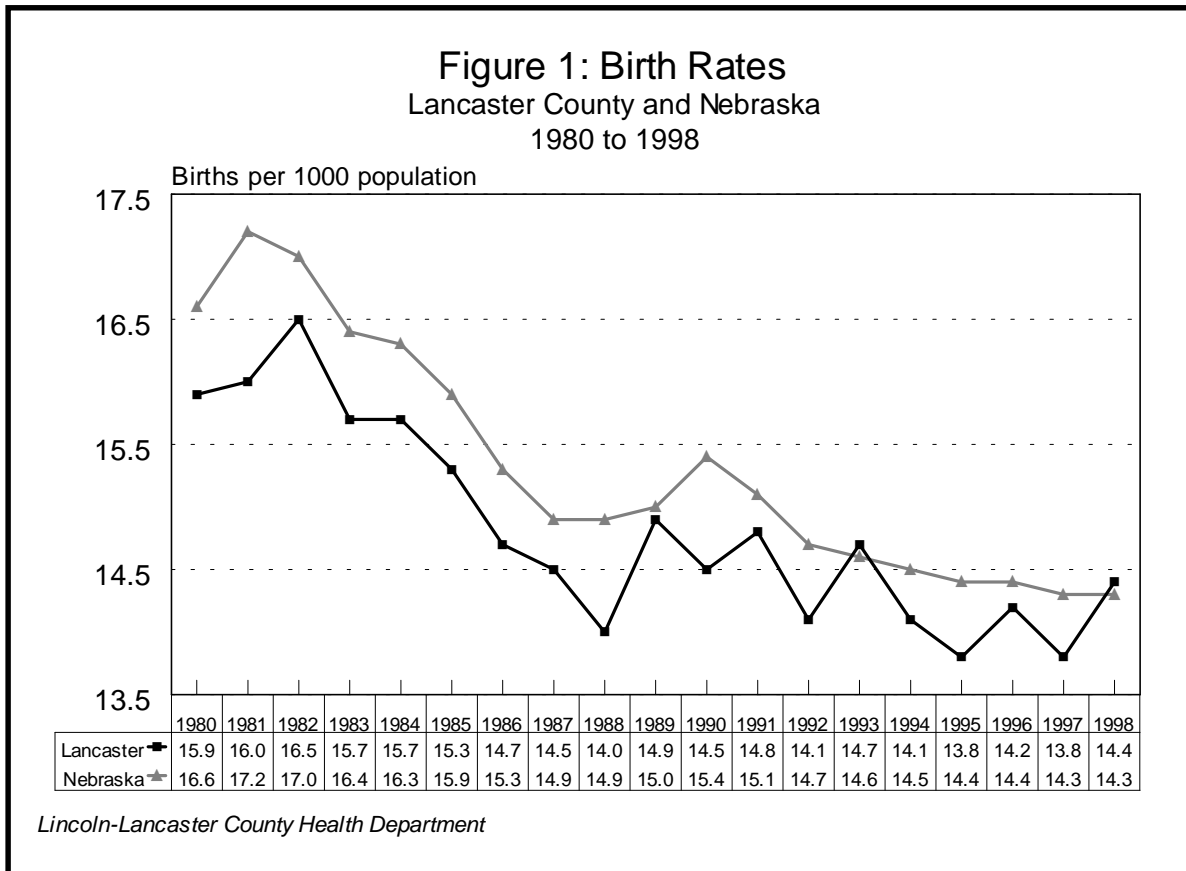
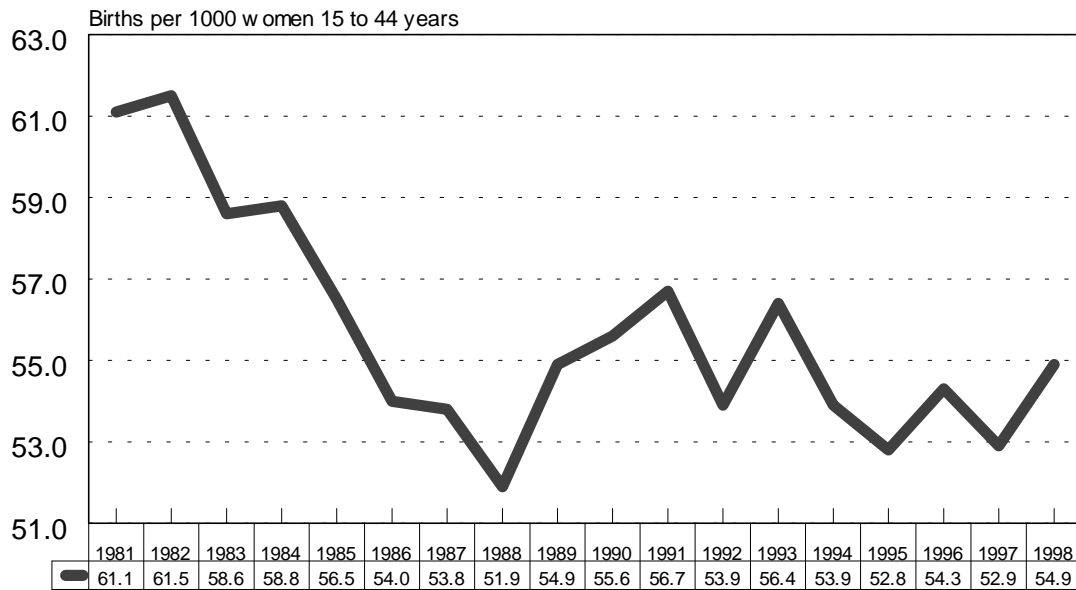


Figure 2: Fertility Rate
Lancaster County, NE
1981-1998



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Sex of Child

Of the 3388 total live births, 1673, or 49.4%, were males and 1715, or 50.6%, were females.

RACE/ETHNIC ORIGIN

In 1998, 91.3% of all births were White, 3.2% were Black, 1.1% were American Indian and 4.3% were Asian. Latinos represented 4.8% of all births (Table 2).

Over the past decade, the percentage of all Lancaster County births which are of minority race or Latino ethnicity have increased from 9.7% in 1988 to 13.4% in 1998.

TABLE 1.
Births by Month
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Month</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>
January	266	7.9
February	264	7.8
March	291	8.6
April	269	7.9
May	292	8.6
June	287	8.5
July	301	8.9
August	308	9.1
September	264	7.8
October	254	7.5
November	280	8.3
December	312	9.2
TOTAL	3388	100.0

TABLE 2.
Births by Race and Ethnic Origin
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>RACE</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
White	3092	91.3
Black	109	3.2
Am. Indian	38	1.1
Asian	144	4.3
Unknown/Other	5	0.1
Total	3388	100.0
Latino**	164	4.8

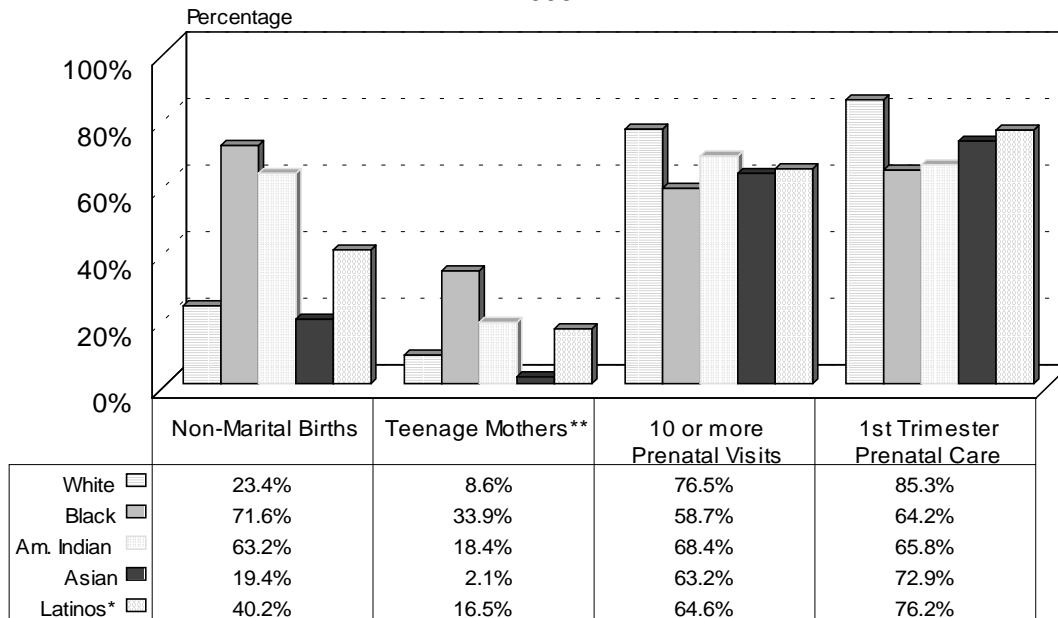
* Race of child determined by race of mother.

** Latinos may be of any race.

State of Nebraska birth statistics identify the race of birthed children solely upon the race of the mother. For comparison purposes, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department also defines the race of the child by the race of the mother for purposes of birth statistics. This is consistent with current statistical practices throughout the nation. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department considers Latino origin separately from race. This distinction also allows for better comparison with state and national data.

Figure 3 illustrates non-marital and teenage birth statistics by race of mother. The graph also illustrates variation by race in the percentage of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester and those who had ten or more prenatal visits during a pregnancy. Each of these issues will be discussed under their respective subject headings.

Figure 3: Comparison of Birth Statistics by Race and Ethnic Origin
Lancaster County, NE
1998



*Latinos may be of any race

** Under 20 years of age.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

TABLE 3.
Comparison of Resident Birth Statistics
by Race and Ethnic Origin
Lancaster County, 1998

	WHITE	BLACK	AM. INDIAN	ASIAN	ALL OTHER	TOTAL	<i>*Latino</i>
NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS							
Male	1518	52	23	78	2	1673	81
Female	1574	57	15	66	3	1715	83
Total	3092	109	38	144	5	3388	164
PERCENT OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	91.3	3.2	1.1	4.3	0.1	100.0	4.8
BIRTH WEIGHT							
Mean Birth Weight (lbs./ozs.)	7/7	6/13	7/8	6/14	7/0	7/7	7/3
Percentage of Births Low-Weight	6.5	11.9	7.9	9.7	---	6.8	9.1
PRENATAL CARE							
10 or More Prenatal Visits (%)	76.5	58.7	68.4	63.2	80.0	75.2	64.6
Receiving Care in First Trimester (%)	85.3	64.2	65.8	72.9	80.0	83.8	76.2
AGE OF MOTHER							
Percent of Mothers by Age:							
Under 20	8.6	33.9	18.4	2.1	0.0	9.3	16.5
20 - 24	22.3	22.9	50.0	24.3	40.0	22.8	30.5
25 - 29	33.0	15.6	15.8	36.8	40.0	32.4	31.7
30 & Over	36.0	27.5	15.8	36.8	20.0	35.5	21.3
NON-MARITAL BIRTHS							
Number	723	78	24	28	3	856	66
Non-Marital Births by Race (%)	23.4	71.6	63.2	19.4	60.0	25.3	40.2
Overall Share of Non-Marital Births (%)	84.5	9.1	2.8	3.3	0.4	100.0	7.7

NOTE: *Statistics are based on the race of the mother.*

***Latinos may be of any race.**

****Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding**

BIRTH WEIGHT

In 1998, the mean birth weight was 7 lbs. 7 ozs. The mean birth weight has remained fairly stable for the past 15 years. Table 4 lists the frequency of births by weight of child. Nearly 80% of all children weighed between 6 lbs. and 8 lbs. 15 ozs at birth.

Race and Ethnic Origin of Child

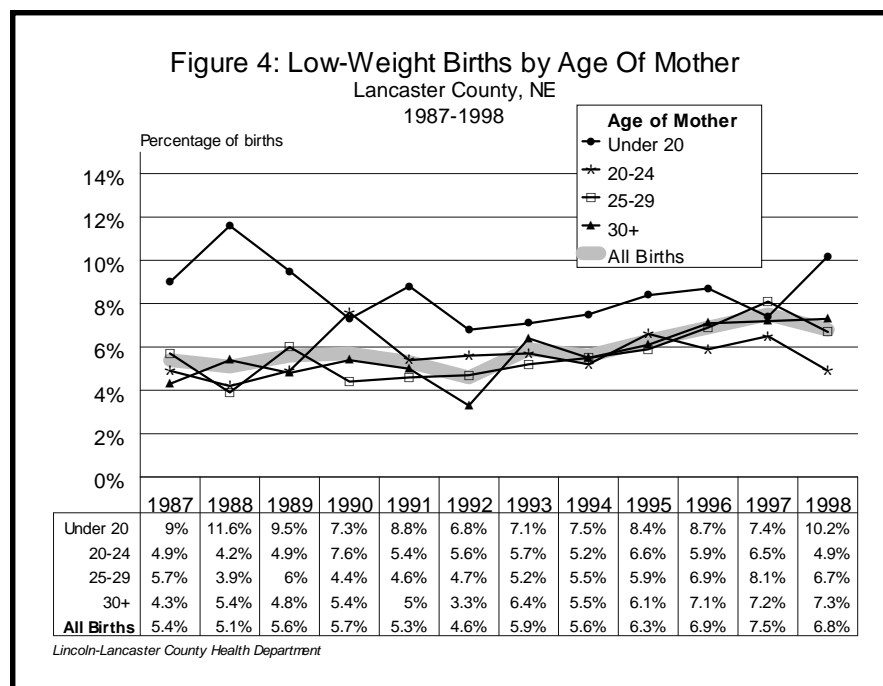
The mean birth weight for Whites was 7 lbs. 7 ozs. This compares to 6 lbs. 13 oz. for Blacks, 7 lbs. 8 ozs. for American Indians, 6lbs. 14 ozs. for Asians and 7 lbs. 3 ozs. for Latinos.

TABLE 4.
Births by Weight of Child
Lancaster County, 1998

Weight of Child	Frequency	Percent
1 lb. & Under	2	0.1
1 lb. 1 oz. - 2 lbs.	14	0.4
2 lbs. 1 oz. - 3 lbs. 8 ozs.	41	1.2
3 lbs. 9 ozs. - 4 lbs. 8 ozs.	50	1.5
4 lbs. 9 ozs. - 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	125	3.7
5 lbs. 9 ozs. - 5 lbs. 15 ozs.	112	3.3
6 lbs. - 6 lbs. 15 ozs.	751	22.2
7 lbs. - 7 lbs. 15 ozs.	1163	34.3
8 lbs. - 8 lbs. 15 ozs.	815	24.1
9 lbs. - 9 lbs. 15 ozs.	264	7.8
10 lbs. - 10 lbs. 15 ozs.	45	1.3
11 lbs. & Over	6	0.2
TOTAL BIRTHS	3388	100.0

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

There were 232 low birth weight babies (5 lbs. 8 ozs. or less) born in 1998, accounting for 6.8% of all live births. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2000 was to reduce this percentage to 4.7%.



Marital Status

Among married women, 6.1% (155 of 2532) had low birth weight babies, compared to 9.0% (77 of 856) among unmarried women (Table 5).

TABLE 5. Low-Weight Births by Marital Status Lancaster County, 1998				
	<i>MARRIED</i>		<i>UNMARRIED</i>	
Weight of Child	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>
5 lbs 8 ozs and Under	155	6.1	77	9.0
Over 5 lbs 8 ozs	2377	93.9	779	91.0
TOTAL	2532	100.0	856	100.0

Age of Mother

In 1998, teenage mothers were more likely to have a low birth weight baby (10.2%) compared to other age groups (5.3%) (Table 6 and Figure 4). This was a 2.8% increase from 1997 (7.4%).

TABLE 6. Low-Weight Births by Age of Mother Lancaster County, 1998				
Age of Mother	<u>Total Live Births</u>	<u>Low Weight Births</u>	<u>% of Low Weight by Age-Group**</u>	<u>% of Age Group Low Weight***</u>
Under 20	314	32	13.8	10.2
20 - 24	772	38	16.4	4.9
25 - 29	1099	74	31.9	6.7
30 & Over	1203	88	37.9	7.3
TOTAL	3388	232	100.0	6.8

**** Percentages in this column reflect low-weight births by age-group.**
***** Percentages in this column reflect births within the age-group that were low-weight.**

Race and Ethnic Origin of Child

In 1998, low birth weight births comprised 6.5% of White births, 11.9% of Black births, 7.9% of American Indian births, 9.7% of Asian births and 9.1% of Latino births.

Sustained increases in low birth weight have been noticeable for White and Black infants only. From 1988 to 1998, low birth weight increased from 4.8% to 6.5% for White infants, and from 6.8% to 11.9% for Black infants.

Alcohol Use

In 1998, 42 (1.2%) Lancaster County births were to mothers who reported the consumption of alcohol at least once during pregnancy. This is consistent with reported consumption in 1997 (1.5%). Mothers who consumed alcohol during pregnancy reported a median of 1.4 drinks per week. Mothers who consumed alcohol were more likely to have low birth weight babies (14.3%, Figure 5) than mothers who did not drink (6.8%).

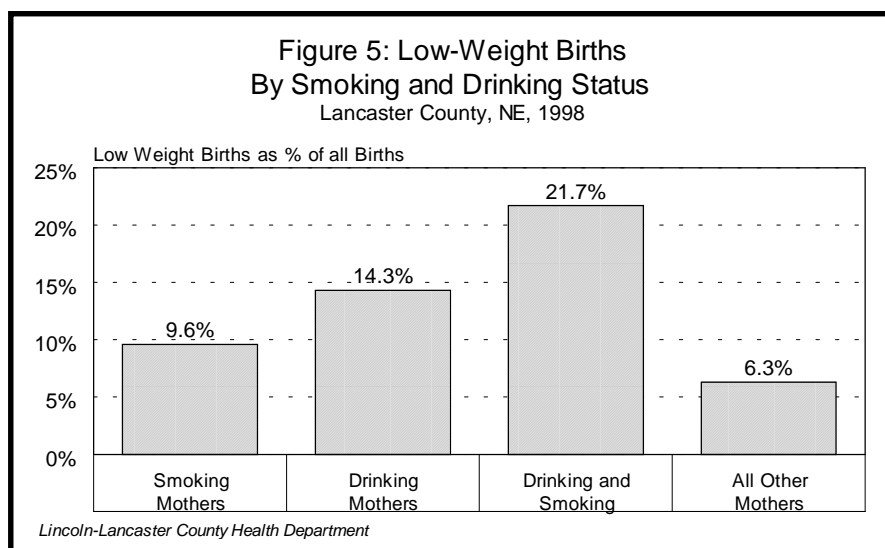
Tobacco Use

In 1998, 534 (15.8%) Lancaster County births were to mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy, indicating little change from the 15.6% reported in 1997. Among mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy in 1998, a mean of 10.9 (median of 10.0) cigarettes were smoked per day. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2000 was to decrease the percentage of women who smoke during pregnancy to 10.0%.

Among mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy, 9.6% of births were of low weight (Figure 5), compared to 6.3% for mothers who reported not smoking.

Alcohol and Tobacco Use

Twenty-three mothers (0.7%) reported using both alcohol and tobacco during pregnancy. In this group, five births (21.7%) were of low weight, compared to 6.3% of mothers who reported not smoke and drink during pregnancy (Figure 5).



BIRTH DEFECTS (Congenital Anomalies)

According to the 1998 Nebraska Birth Defects Registry, there were 149 live births with birth defects in Lancaster County (4.4% of all births). Among these births, the number of defects was 352. Anomalies of the heart (95) were the most common type of defect reported, followed by defects of the musculoskeletal system (60), circulatory system defects (34), and urinary system defects (25) (Table 9).

Males represented 55.0% (82) of children born with these birth defects, and females represented 45.0% (67).

Of the 242 infants born with low birth weight in 1998, 11.2% (27) had birth defects. Among babies who were not of low birth weight, 3.9% (122) had birth defects.

**TABLE 7.
Birth Defects by Race
Lancaster County, 1998**

Race	Total Births	Number of Births with Defects	Percent of Race Group
White	3092	129	4.2
Other Races	291	20	6.8
Unknown	5	0	0.0
TOTAL	3388	149	4.4

Race of Child

Among all live births with defects, 86.6% were White, 6.7% Black, 5.4% were Asian, and 1.3% were American Indian.

Of all Black births in 1998, 9.2% had birth defects, indicating the highest percentage among all races. This compares to 5.6% among Asians, 5.3% among American Indians, and 4.2% among Whites (Table 7).

Age of Mother

Birth defects affected 5.7% of babies born to mothers 35 to 39 years old and 15.6% of babies born to mothers 40 and older. This compares to 4.2% of babies born to mothers of all other ages (Table 8).

**TABLE 8.
Birth Defects by Age of Mother
Lancaster County, 1997**

Age	Total Births	Frequency of Births With Defects	Percent of Age Group
10 - 14	4	0	0.0
15 - 19	310	16	5.2
20 - 24	772	33	4.3
25 - 29	1099	46	4.2
30 - 34	777	28	3.6
35 - 39	368	21	5.7
40 and Older	58	5	8.6
TOTAL	3388	149	4.4

TABLE 9.
Birth Defects by Number and
Rate Per 1000 Live Births
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Type of Defect</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate/1000*</u>
ABDOMINAL CAVITY	6	1.8
ANOMALIES OF THE EYE	4	1.2
ANOMALIES OF THE EAR, FACE, NECK	16	4.7
ANOMALIES OF THE HEART	95	28.0
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM		
Hydrocephalus	4	1.2
Other CNS	17	5.0
CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	34	10.0
CLEFT PALATE AND CLEFT LIP	9	2.7
CLUB FOOT	15	4.4
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	7	2.1
DOWN'S SYNDROME	9	2.7
GENITAL ORGANS	25	7.4
METABOLIC BLOOD	2	0.6
MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM	60	17.7
MULTIPLE SYSTEMS	1	0.3
OTHER CHROMOSOME	3	0.9
OTHER UPPER ALIMENTARY TRACT	5	1.5
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	10	3.0
SPINA BIFIDA	3	0.9
SKIN, HAIR AND NAILS	6	1.8
UNSPECIFIED	6	1.8
URINARY SYSTEM	12	3.5
All Other	3	0.9
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS	352	103.9
 TOTAL BIRTHS WITH DEFECTS	 149	 44.0

*Rate per 1000 live births

Source: Birth Defects Registry, Nebraska Health and Human Services System

PRENATAL CARE

Ten or More Prenatal Visits

The percentage of mothers known to have had ten or more prenatal visits was 75.2% in 1998 (Figure 6). Through the mid-1980s, there were marked improvements in the percentage of women with ten or more prenatal visits. Since that time, however, the percentage has not improved and has even declined over the past decade (1988 to 1998). Frequency of prenatal visits is shown in Table 10.

Care in the First Trimester

In 1998, 83.8% of Lancaster County mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy (Figure 6). The overall percentage of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester has not shown a sustained increase since 1989 and remains more than 10% below the Year 2000 Health Objective for Nebraska and Lancaster County of 95%.

The percentage of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care has generally been highest among white mothers and lowest among Black and American Indian mothers. The prevalence of first trimester care has shown slight variation among mothers of different racial/ethnic group over the past five year period (1993 to 1998) although change was not statistically significant. During this period, the percentage of mothers receiving first trimester care appeared to improve among American Indian mothers (57.9% in 1993 to 65.8% in 1998). Over the same period an apparent decline occurred among Black mothers (69.0% in 1993 to 64.2% in 1998), and White mothers (89.0% in 1993 to 85.3% in 1998). Both Asian and Latino mothers showed no change over the period (69.8% in 1993 to 72.9% in 1998) and (78.7% in 1993 to 76.2% in 1998) respectively.

Older mothers (25 years and older) were more likely to receive care in the first trimester compared to younger mothers (Figure 7). Married mothers

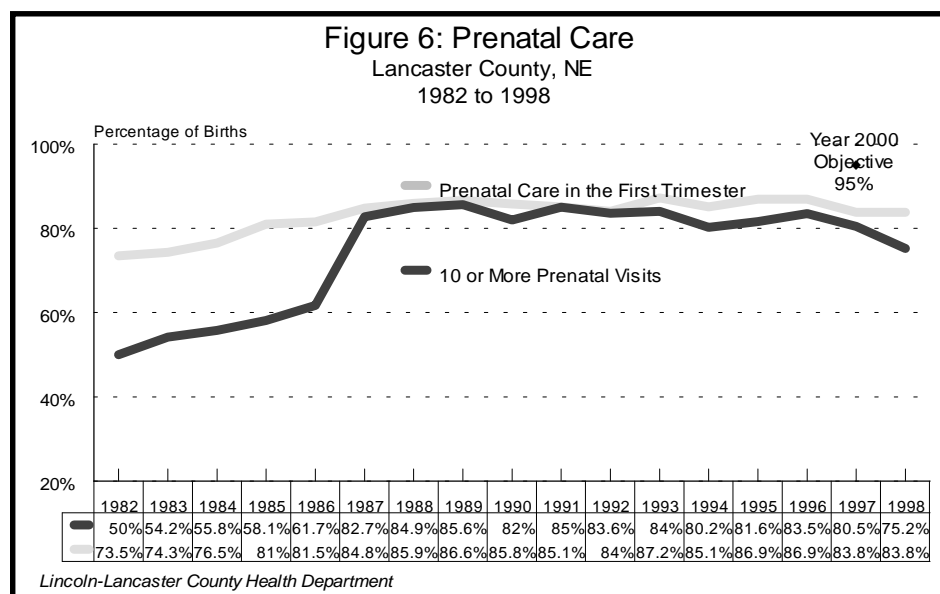


TABLE 10.
Number of Prenatal Visits
Lancaster County, 1998

Number of Visits	Number of Births	Cumulative Number of Births	Cumulative Percentage of Total Births
Unknown	1	1	
None	10	11	0.3
One	8	19	0.6
Two	10	29	0.9
Three	10	39	1.2
Four	24	63	1.9
Five	52	115	3.4
Six	85	200	5.9
Seven	112	312	9.2
Eight	269	581	17.1
Nine	258	839	24.8
Ten and Over	2549	3388	100.0

Figure 7: Care in First Trimester
By Age of Mother

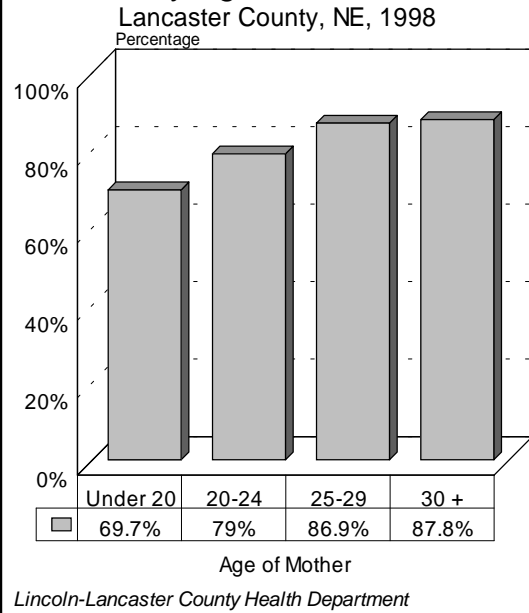
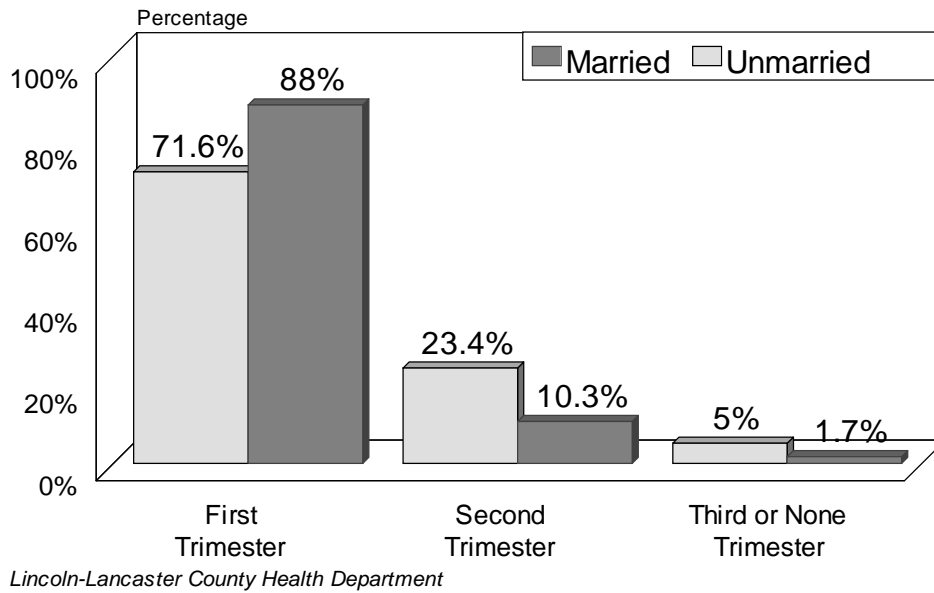


Figure 8: Trimester When Prenatal Care Began
Lancaster County, NE, 1998



were more likely to receive care in the first trimester (88.0%) compared to unmarried mothers (71.6%) (Figure 8).

PARENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The mean age of Lancaster County mothers was 27.5 years in 1998, which is consistent with the mean age seen during the 1990s (Figure 9). For births in which the age of both the mother and father is known, there is about a two year difference in age between mothers (27.9 years) and fathers (30.0 years). Lancaster County women 25 years and older have increased their share of the total number of births from 59.6% in 1981 to 67.9% in 1998 (Figure 10).

Race and Ethnic Origin of Mothers

In 1998, the mean age of mothers was 27.6 years for Whites, 24.4 years for Blacks, 25.4 years for Latinos, 23.6 years for American Indians, and 27.6 for Asians. The mean age of first time mothers was 25.2 years for Whites, 20.2 years for Blacks, 22.9 years for Latinos, 21.5 for American Indians, and 26.1 for Asians.

Marital Status

The mean age of married mothers was 29.1 years, compared to 22.6 for unmarried mothers. The mean age of unmarried mothers was younger than married mothers among all birth-order categories (Table 11).

Education

The most common level of education completed by Lancaster County mothers and fathers was a high school education. The mean education level was 2 years of college for both mothers and fathers. For unmarried women, the mean education level was a high school education, versus 2.5 years of college for married women.

TEENAGE MOTHERS

The birth rate among females 15 to 19 years of age in 1998 was 32.7 per 1000 population. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2000 was to reduce the teenage birth rate to 20 per 1000 population. Of all births in 1998, 9.3% were to mothers under 20, while only 3.9% were to fathers under 20 (Figure 11). Fathers of infants born to teen mothers were, on average, two years older (30 years) than the mother (27.9 years).

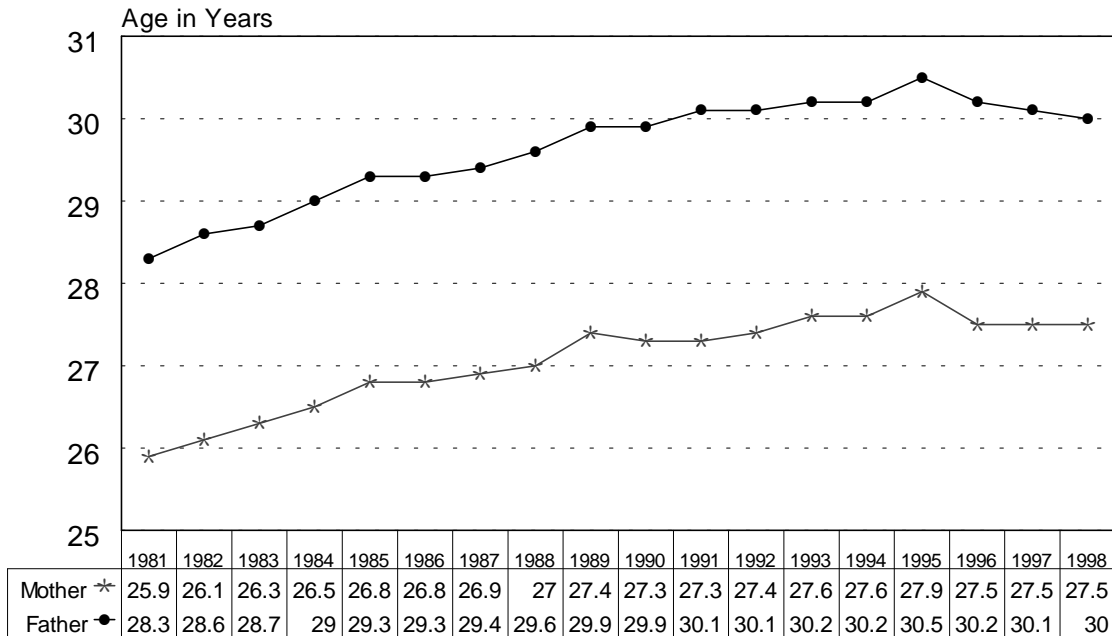
TABLE 11.
Mean Age of Mother by Birth Order and Marital Status
Lancaster County, 1998

	<u>MARRIED</u>	<u>UNMARRIED</u>	<u>MEANAGE</u>
First Born	27.3	20.7	25.0
Second Born	29.4	23.6	28.3
Third Born	30.5	26.4	29.9
Fourth Born	30.9	29.2	30.6
ALL BIRTHS	29.1	22.6	27.5

Figure 9: Mean Age of Mother and Father

Lancaster County, NE

1981-1998

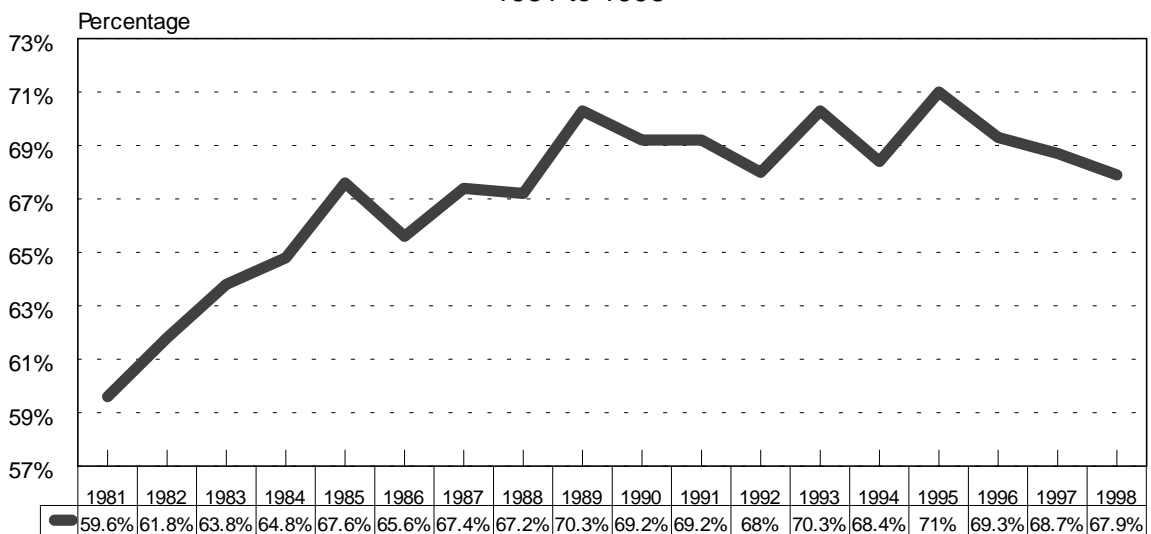


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Figure 10: Percent of Births to Women Age 25 and Over

Lancaster County, NE

1981 to 1998



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Race and Ethnic Origin of Teen Mothers

The percentage of births born to mothers under 20 years old has increased for all populations but has been highest among American Indian, Black, and Hispanic populations. From 1987 to 1998, teen mothers increased from 17.8% to 18.4% of American Indian births, from 21.3% to 33.9% of Black births, and from 7.7% to 16.5% of Latino births. During the same period, teen mothers increased from 7.3% to 8.6% of White births and from 1.7% to 2.1% of Asian births.

Prenatal Care

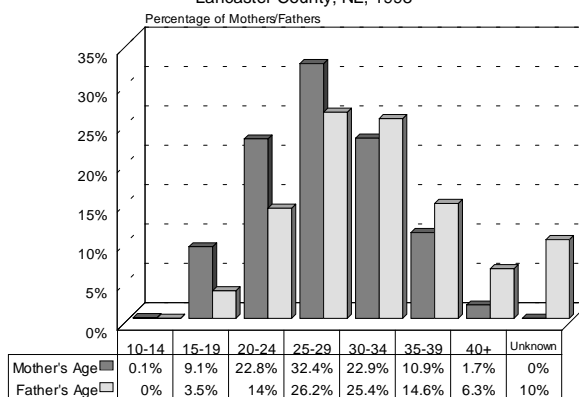
Among mothers less than 20 years of age, 69.7% received care in their first trimester of pregnancy (Figure 7). This compares to 85.3% for older mothers (20+ years old) and 83.8% for mothers of all ages.

NON-MARITAL BIRTHS

Overall, 25.3% of births (856 of 3388) were to unmarried mothers. This translates into a rate of 252.7 non-marital births per 1000 live births in 1998 (Figure 12). The rate of non-marital births has been steadily increasing since 1978, when 98 of every 1000 live births were to an unmarried mother.

More than five of every six births (86.3%) to mothers under 20 years of age were non-marital in 1998 (Table 12). Among all mothers, 71.6% of Black births, 63.2% of American Indian births, 40.2% of Latino births, 19.4% of Asian births, and 23.4% of White births were non-marital.

Figure 11: Births by Age of Mother and Father
Lancaster County, NE, 1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

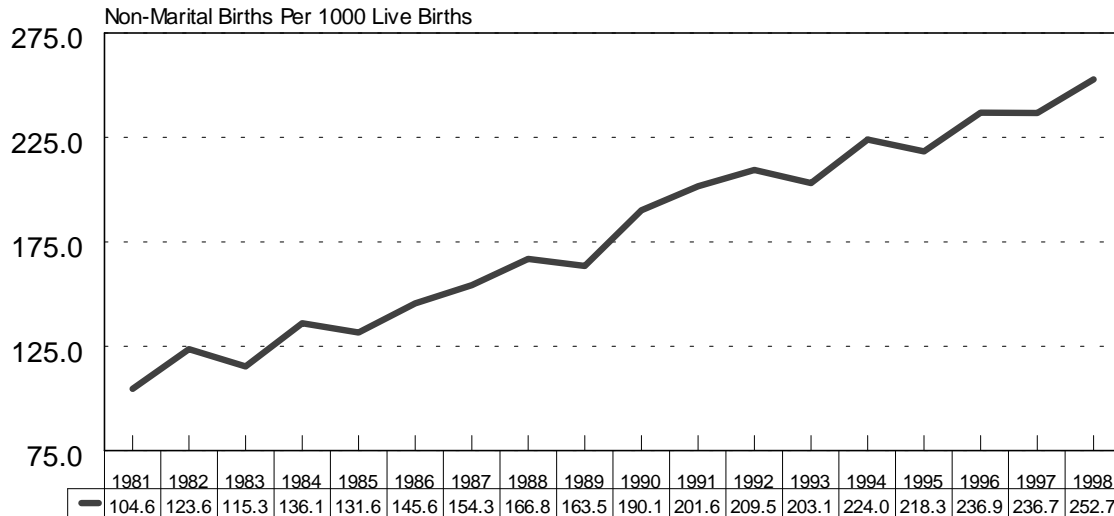
APGAR SCORES

In 1998, the mean APGAR scores at 1 minute and 5 minutes after birth were 7.5 and 8.7 (highest possible score = 10), respectively. APGAR scores have remained stable for over a decade. In addition, slight variation in APGAR scores can be seen among males and females and among different racial/ethnic groups (Figure 13).

ATTENDANT AT BIRTH

In recent years, a sharp increase has been noted in non-physician attended births. The number of non-physician attended births has risen from 7 births in 1992 to 150 births in 1995 to 264 births in 1998 (7.8% of all births). Of the non-physician attended births in 1998, 97.7% were hospital births and 97.7% were attended by Certified Nurse Midwives. Six non-physician attended births (2.3%) were home births. Mothers whose

Figure 12: Non-Marital Birth Rate
Lancaster County, NE
1981 to 1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

births were attended by Certified Nurse Midwives were slightly less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care (79.8%) than mothers in births attended by physicians (84.2%).

MULTIPLE BIRTHS

The total number of multiple births in Lancaster County was 115 (53 sets) in 1998, including 6 sets of triplets and two set of quadruplets. The number of multiple births in 1997 was 114.

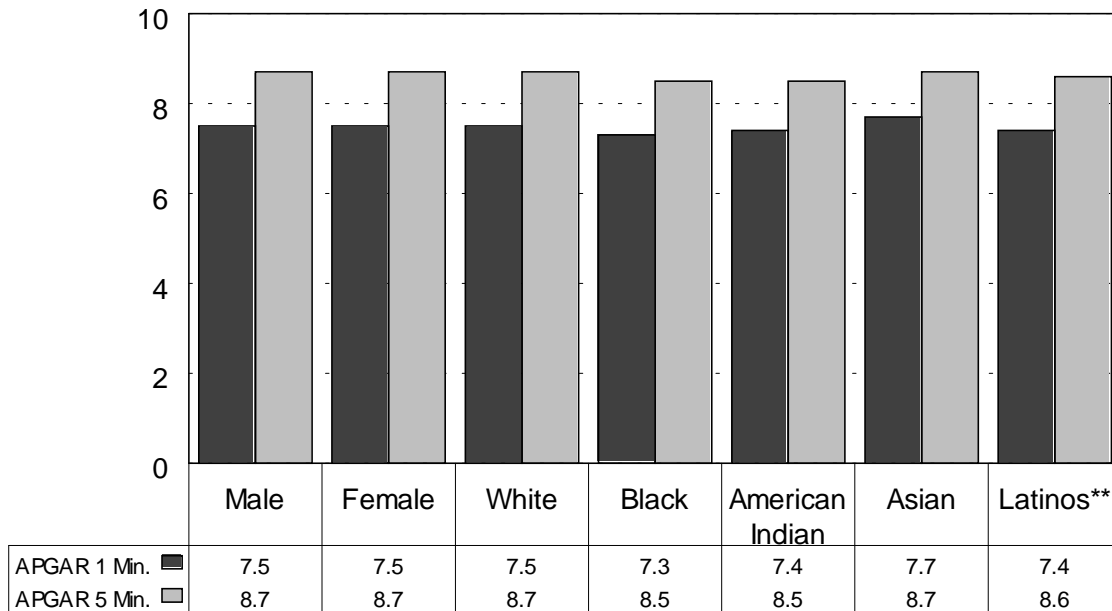
TABLE 12.
Non-Marital Births by Age of Mother
Lancaster County, 1998

Age Group	Total Live Births	Freq. of Non-Marital Births	% of** Non-Marital By Age Group	% of*** Age Group Not Married
Under 20	314	271	31.7	86.3
20 to 24	772	346	40.4	44.8
25 to 29	1099	148	17.3	13.5
30 and Above	1203	91	10.6	7.6
TOTAL	3388	856	100.0	25.3

** Percentages in this column reflect non-marital births by age group.

*** Percentages in this column reflect non-marital births within the respective age groups.

Figure 13: Mean APGAR Scores by Gender and Race*
Lancaster County, NE, 1998



*Race of the child is determined by the race of the mother

**Latinos may be of any race

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

TABLE 13. SUMMARY OF RESIDENT BIRTH STATISTICS FROM 1984 TO 1998, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE

1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS														
Lancaster County														
3196	3108	2993	3014	2968	3174	3103	3198	3069	3245	3129	3166	3293	3223	3388
Lincoln														
2881	2826	2716	2755	2676	2907	2859	2970	2855	2985	2928	2964	3095	3017	3191
Balance of County														
315	282	277	269	292	267	244	228	214	260	201	202	198	206	197
SEX OF CHILD														
Male														
50.3%	51.9%	51.1%	49.8%	50.2%	52.5%	51.2%	51.3%	51.4%	50.7%	52.0%	52.0%	50.8%	50.6%	49.4%
Female														
49.7%	48.1%	48.9%	50.2%	49.8%	47.5%	48.8%	48.7%	48.6%	49.3%	48.0%	48.0%	49.2%	49.4%	50.6%
RACE OF CHILD														
White														
91.8%	90.4%	93.6%	91.7%	90.3%	89.9%	92.0%	90.9%	89.7%	91.3%	91.9%	90.4%	90.4%	89.2%	91.3%
Black														
2.8%	3.6%	2.0%	3.6%	3.9%	3.9%	4.2%	4.6%	4.6%	3.1%	3.1%	3.6%	2.9%	3.6%	3.2%
Latino														
2.0%	2.6%	1.9%	2.3%	2.1%	2.7%	2.7%*	2.7%*	4.0%*	2.9%*	3.1%*	3.6%*	3.8%*	4.0%*	4.8%*
American Indian														
0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	1.2%	1.0%	1.9%	1.3%	1.6%	1.2%	1.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	1.1%
Asian														
NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	4.3%	3.9%	4.5%	5.2%	5.2%	4.3%
All Others														
2.4%	2.5%	1.6%	1.6%	2.6%	2.5%	1.9%	3.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.03%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%
BIRTH WEIGHT														
Mean Birth Weight**														
7.5	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.7
Low Weight Births														
Number														
195	168	149	163	150	177	177	169	141	192	176	200	228	242	232
Percent of Total Live Births														
6.1%	5.4%	5.0%	5.4%	5.1%	5.6%	5.7%	5.3%	4.6%	5.9%	5.6%	6.3%	6.9%	7.5%	6.8%
BIRTH RATE														
Births per 1000 Population														
15.7	15.3	14.7	14.5	14.0	14.9	14.9	14.8	14.1	14.7	14.1	13.8	14.2	13.8	14.4
FERTILITY RATE														
Births per 1000 Women 15-44														
58.8	56.5	54.0	53.8	51.9	54.9	55.6	56.7	53.9	56.4	53.9	52.8	54.3	52.9	54.9
NON-MARITAL BIRTHS														
435	409	434	465	495	519	590	645	643	659	701	691	780	763	856
NON-MARITAL BIRTH RATE														
136.1	131.6	145.0	154.3	166.8	163.5	190.1	201.6	209.5	203.1	224.0	218.3	236.9	236.7	252.7
Non-Marital Births per 1000 live Births														

* Latinos may be of any race, (1990-1998 only).

** Weight expressed in pounds and ounces.

NR: Not Reported

TABLE 13. SUMMARY OF RESIDENT BIRTH STATISTICS FROM 1984 TO 1998, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE

1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
PRENATAL CARE														
Percent with 10 or more Prenatal Visits														
55.8%	58.1%	61.7%	82.7%	84.9%	85.6%	82.0%	85.0%	83.6%	84.0%	80.2%	81.6%	83.5%	79.8%	75.2%
-Percent Receiving Care in 1st Trimester														
76.5%	81.0%	81.5%	84.8%	85.9%	86.6%	85.8%	85.1%	84.0%	87.2%	85.1%	86.9%	86.9%	83.8%	83.8%
AGE OF PARENTS														
Percent of Mothers by Age														
Under 20														
8.5%	6.9%	7.6%	7.7%	7.9%	7.1%	8.4%	8.2%	8.6%	7.4%	8.9%	7.5%	9.4%	9.6%	9.3%
20-24														
26.7%	25.5%	26.8%	25.2%	24.7%	22.6%	22.4%	22.6%	23.4%	22.3%	22.7%	21.5%	21.3%	21.6%	22.8%
25-29														
36.3%	38.2%	35.9%	37.0%	35.4%	36.0%	34.6%	34.4%	31.9%	31.8%	29.7%	32.1%	32.9%	32.7%	32.4%
30-34														
22.4%	22.7%	22.7%	22.8%	24.0%	24.7%	25.1%	24.9%	25.3%	27.9%	26.8%	26.1%	24.0%	22.9%	22.9%
35-39														
5.6%	6.2%	6.7%	6.7%	7.0%	8.4%	8.1%	8.8%	8.8%	9.3%	10.3%	10.8%	10.7%	11.3%	10.9%
40 and over														
0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.9%	0.8%	1.2%	1.4%	1.2%	2.0%	1.3%	1.6%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%
Mean Age of Mother:														
Married														
27.3	27.6	27.6	27.8	27.9	28.3	28.5	28.5	28.7	28.9	29.0	29.2	29.0	29.0	29.1
Unmarried														
21.8	22.0	22.2	22.2	22.4	22.7	22.5	22.8	22.5	22.6	22.7	23.2	22.7	22.8	22.6
Total														
26.5	26.8	26.8	26.9	27.0	27.4	27.3	27.3	27.4	27.6	27.6	27.9	27.5	27.5	27.5
Mean Age of Father														
29.0	29.3	29.3	29.4	29.6	29.9	29.9	30.1	30.1	30.2	30.2	30.5	30.2	30.1	30.0
MULTIPLE BIRTHS														
Number of Multiple Births														
31	31	40	44	30	47	39	37	27	42	39	37	55	54	53
APGAR SCORES														
Mean 1 Minute APGAR Score														
7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5
Mean 5 Minute APGAR Score														
8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.7
BIRTH DEFECTS														
(CONGENITAL ANOMALIES)														
Number														
78	76	78	75	56	86	104	146	123	157	111	113	133	168	149
Percent of Total Live Births and Fetal Deaths														
2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.4%	1.9%	2.7%	3.4%	4.6%	4.0%	4.8%	3.5%	3.6%	4.0%	5.2%	4.4%
EDUCATION LEVEL OF PARENTS														
Mean Years of Education of Father														
13.3	14.0	13.9	14.0	13.9	14.0	14.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.2	14.1	14.1	14.1
Mean Years of Education of Mother														
13.8	13.4	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.7	13.7	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.8	13.9	13.9
HOSPITAL/PHYSICIAN														
ATTENDED BIRTHS														
Number of Non-Hospital Births :														
12	5	14	11	20	7	15	13	8	21	10	3	10	8	6
Percent of Total Live Births														
0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Non-Physician Attended Births:														
Number														
10	4	4	5	9	6	10	13	7	48	80	150	223	207	264
Percent of Total Live Births														
0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	1.5%	2.6%	4.7%	6.8%	6.6%	7.8%

DEATH STATISTICS

CRUDE DEATH RATE

In 1998, the crude death rate for Lancaster County was 6.7 per 1000 population. The average crude death rate between 1981 and 1998 was 6.9 per 1000 population.

The crude death rate for the State of Nebraska during 1998 was 9.2 per 1000 population. Figure 14 illustrates the death rates for Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS

There were 1582 deaths among Lancaster County residents during 1998. Of these, 1468 (92.8%) were residents of Lincoln. The remaining 114

(7.2%) resided outside the City of Lincoln. The most frequent month for death was February (Table 14).

Race

Of the deaths in 1998, 1546 (97.7%) were among Whites, 20 were among Blacks, 10 were among American Indians, and 6 were among Asians. Non-White deaths accounted for 2.3% of total deaths.

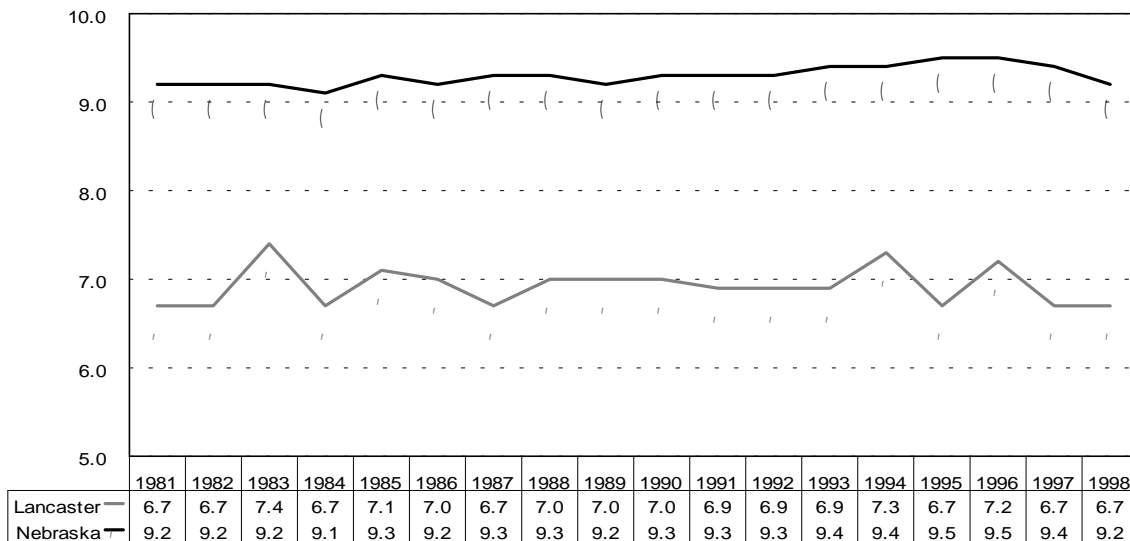
Sex

During 1998, 47.6% of all deaths in Lancaster County were males and 52.4% were females.

Age

In 1998, 26 infants (less than 1 year of age) died,

Figure 14: Comparison of Death Rates
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1981 to 1998



Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department

accounting for 1.6% of all deaths and an infant mortality rate of 7.7 per 1000 live births (*See page 30 for further discussion of infant mortality*). A total of 38 children 0 to 14 died in 1998, accounting for 2.4% of all deaths. The most frequent age group among deaths was 80 to 89 years (29.3% of all deaths) followed by 70 to 79 years (24.1% of all deaths). (Table 16).

The mean age of death has increased 0.8 years during the past decade. In 1998, the mean age of death for males and females was 68.8 and 76.4 years, respectively (Figure 15). For males, this represents an increase of 0.8 years over the past decade (since 1988). The mean age of death for females increased 0.4 years from 1988 to 1998.

Using a five year rolling average (1994 to 1998), the mean age of death for White individuals (73.6 years) is approximately 19.0 years older than the mean age of death for individuals in other racial/ethnic categories (54.7 years).

TABLE 14.
Deaths by Month,
Lancaster County 1998

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
January	132	8.3
February	146	9.2
March	132	8.3
April	134	8.5
May	110	7.0
June	142	9.0
July	136	8.6
August	114	7.2
September	117	7.4
October	139	8.8
November	138	8.7
December	142	9.0
TOTAL	1582	100.0

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

In 1998, 27.7% of all deaths were due to heart disease and 23.2% were due to cancer. These two major causes of death accounted for 50.9% of all deaths (Figure 16). Table 17 details statistics on the leading causes of death in Lancaster County.

Table 15 lists the average age of death by sex by selected cause. The six leading causes of death in Lancaster County and Nebraska can be found in Table 18.

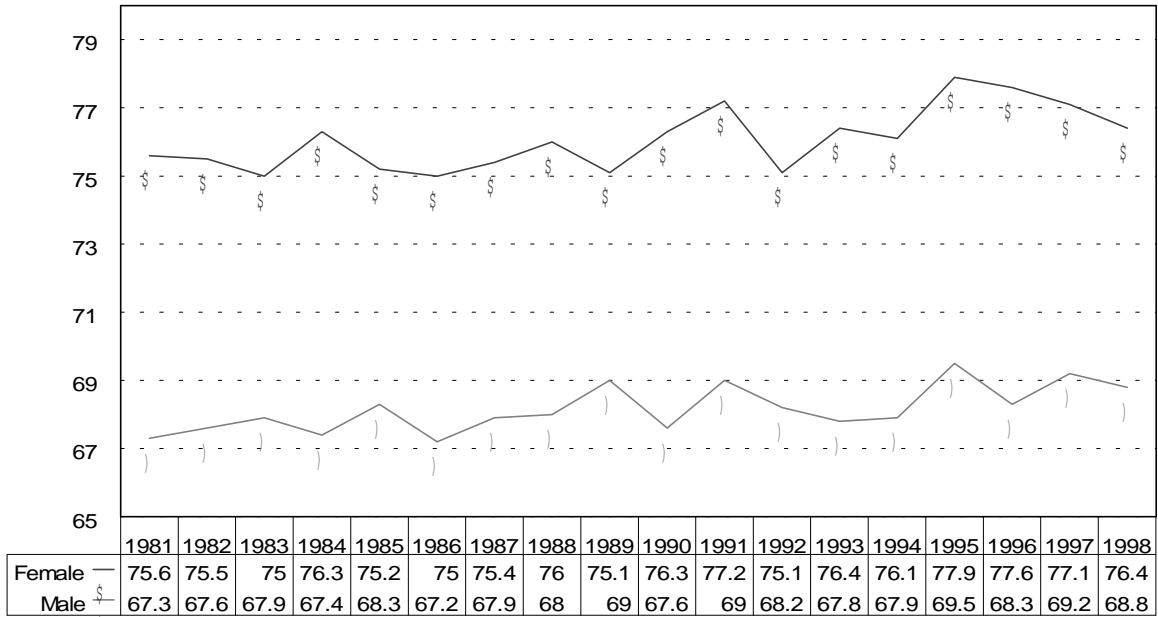
Age and Sex

Among males 1 to 29 years of age, unintentional injury, suicide, and homicide were the leading causes of death (Table 19). For males and females 30 to 59 years old the leading causes of death were heart disease and cancer respectively. The leading cause of death for males and females 60 and older was heart disease. Causes of infant mortality are listed in Table 23.

TABLE 15.
Average Age of Death
by Sex by Selected Cause
Lancaster County, 1998

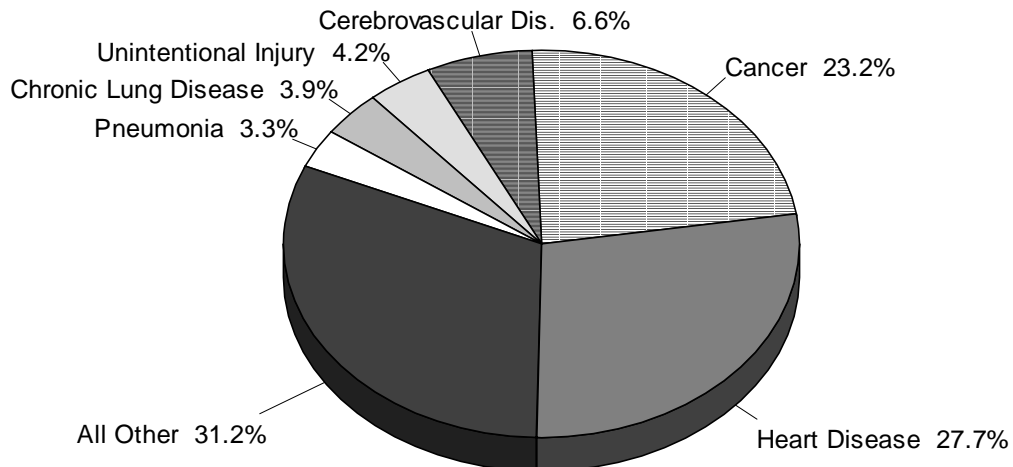
<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Heart Disease	74.3	83.6
Cancer	70.2	70.2
Cerebrovascular Disease	78.4	82.9
Accidental Deaths	49.9	61.0
Chronic Lung Disease	72.6	76.5
Pneumonia	76.8	82.2
Suicide	43.5	41.6

Figure 15: Mean Age of Death for Males and Females
Lancaster County, NE
1981-1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Figure 16: Leading Causes of Death
Lancaster County, NE
1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

TABLE 16.
Deaths by Age and Sex
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Age</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>% of Total Deaths</u>	<u>Male Deaths</u>	<u>% of Male Deaths</u>	<u>Female Deaths</u>	<u>% of Female Deaths</u>
<1	26	1.6%	11	1.5%	15	1.8%
1 - 4	2	0.1%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%
5 - 9	5	0.3%	3	0.4%	2	0.2%
10 - 14	5	0.3%	4	0.5%	1	0.1%
15 - 19	2	0.15%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%
20 - 24	7	0.4%	5	0.7%	2	0.2%
25 - 29	15	0.9%	7	0.9%	8	1.0%
30 - 39	37	2.3%	23	3.1%	14	1.7%
40 - 49	77	4.9%	46	6.1%	31	3.7%
50 - 59	119	7.5%	71	9.4%	48	5.8%
60 - 69	203	12.8%	128	17.0%	75	9.0%
70 - 79	382	24.1%	207	27.5%	175	21.1%
80 - 89	464	29.3%	194	25.8%	270	32.6%
90 - 99	218	13.8%	49	6.5%	169	20.4%
>100	20	1.3%	1	0.1%	19	2.3%
TOTAL	1582	100.0%	753	100.0%	829	100.0%

Mean Age of Death for Males 68.8 Years
Mean Age of Death for Females 76.4 Years

TABLE 17.
Leading Causes of Death
and Crude Rate per 100,000 Population
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Number of Total Deaths</u>	<u>% of Total Deaths</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate</u>
Heart Disease	439	27.7%	186.3
Cancer	367	23.2%	155.8
Cerebrovascular Disease	104	6.6%	44.1
Unintentional Injury	66	4.2%	28.0
Chronic Lung Disease	61	3.9%	25.9
Pneumonia	52	3.3%	22.1
Mental Disorders	39	2.5%	16.6
Diabetes Mellitus	36	2.3%	15.3
Suicide	29	1.8%	12.3
Atherosclerosis	27	1.7%	11.5
Emphysema	19	1.2%	8.1
Parkinson's Disease	18	1.1%	7.6
Alzheimer's Disease	15	0.9%	6.4
Cirrhosis of Liver	13	0.8%	5.5
Birth Defects	11	0.7%	4.7
Homicide	9	0.6%	3.8
Nephritis and Nephrosis	9	0.6%	3.8
Aortic Aneurysm	7	0.4%	3.0
Septicemia	7	0.4%	3.0
AIDS	6	0.4%	2.5
All Other Causes	<u>248</u>	<u>15.7%</u>	<u>105.3</u>
TOTAL	1582	100.0	671.5

Population for Lancaster County = 235,589 (estimated)

TABLE 18.
Comparison of the Six Leading Causes of Death
Lancaster County vs. the State of Nebraska, 1998

LANCASTER COUNTY		STATE of NEBRASKA	
<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Heart Disease	27.7%	Heart Disease	31.2%
Cancer	23.2%	Cancer	21.6%
Cerebrovascular Disease	6.6%	Cerebrovascular Disease	7.6%
Chronic Lung Disease	3.9%	Unintentional Injury	4.4%
Unintentional Injury	4.2%	Chronic Lung Disease	3.9%
Pneumonia	3.3%	Pneumonia	3.9%

Cancer Sites

Cancers of the lung, trachea and bronchus were the leading cause of cancer-related death among males, while breast cancer was the leading the leading cause of cancer death among females (Table 20). Lymphoid and prostate cancer were the next leading causes of cancer death in men. Lung, trachea, and bronchus cancer were the next leading causes of cancer death among women (Table 20). Cancer death rates are discussed on pages 33-34.

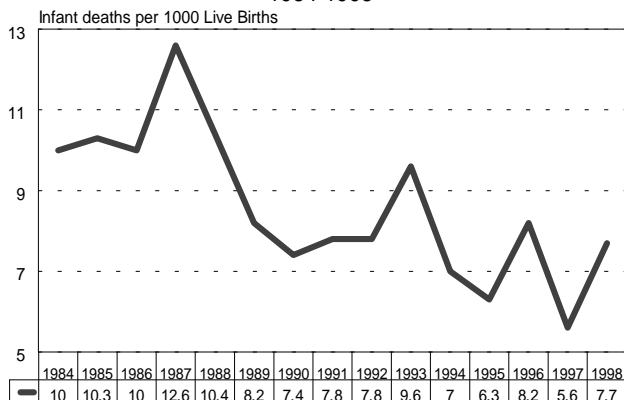
Suicide

Suicide by method and age category are shown in Table 21. The average age for male suicides was 43.5 years, compared to 41.6 years for females. Over one-half of suicide deaths (51.7%) were among individuals 39 years of age or younger. In 1998, the crude rate for suicide was 12.3 per 100,000 population. This indicates little change from the 1997 rate of 12.4 per 100,000 population. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2000 is to reduce suicide mortality to an age-adjusted rate of 7.5 per 100,000 population.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

In 1998, 26 infant deaths occurred in Lancaster County for an infant mortality rate of 7.7 per 1000 live births (Figure 17). This represents an increase from the 1997 infant mortality rate (5.6 per 100,000) in which 18 infant deaths occurred. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2000 is 7.0 per 1000 live births. In 1998, 42.3% of infant deaths were male while the remaining 57.7% were female.

Figure 17: Infant Mortality Rate
 Lancaster County, NE
 1984-1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

TABLE 19.
Three Leading Causes of Death by
Age Group and Sex
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>RANK</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>1 - 29</u>	<u>30 - 59</u>	<u>60 & Over</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
1	M	Unintentional Injury	Heart Disease	Heart Disease	Heart Disease
	F	**	Cancer	Heart Disease	Heart Disease
2	M	Suicides	Cancer	Cancer	Cancer
	F	**	Heart Disease* Unintentional Injury*	Cancer	Cancer
3	M	Homicides	Unintentional Injury	Cerebrovascular Disease	Cerebrovascular Disease
	F	**	Suicide	Cerebrovascular Disease	Cerebrovascular Disease
* Tie	**	Too few for subgroup analysis			

TABLE 20.
Cancer by Type by Sex
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Site of Cancer</u>	<u>Cases</u> <u>in</u> <u>Males</u>	<u>Cases</u> <u>in</u> <u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lung, Trachea, Bronchus	61	34	95
Lymphoid and Histiocytic	25	21	46
Female Breast	0	42	42
Colon/Rectum	17	15	32
Prostate	22	0	22
Pancreas	6	9	15
Brain	6	7	13
Ovary/other uterine adnexa	0	11	11
Stomach	5	3	8
Bladder	5	0	5
Cervix Uteri	0	5	5
Esophagus	5	0	5
Liver	4	1	5
Skin	3	2	5
All Other Sites	21	37	58
TOTAL	180	187	367

TABLE 21.
Suicides by Type by Age Group
Lancaster County, 1998

Type of Suicide	1-14	15-29	30-44	45-59	60 & Over	Total
Firearms and Explosives	1	2	4	3	5	15
Poisoning by Solids or Liquids	0	0	4	2	0	6
Hanging and Suffocation	0	3	1	1	0	5
Poisoning by Other Gases and Vapors	0	0	2	0	0	2
Other And Unspecified Means	0	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	1	5	12	6	5	29

A majority (80.8%) of all infant deaths in 1998 were white (Table 22), a rate of 6.8 per 1000 white births. Five infant deaths among other races in 1998 translated into an infant mortality rate of 24.4 per 1000 non-white births.

The leading cause of infant mortality was congenital anomalies (Table 23).

FETAL DEATHS

Fifteen fetal deaths were reported in 1998, representing a fetal death rate of 4.4 per 1000 live births (Figure 16). This is a

decrease from the 18 fetal deaths reported during 1997, in which a fetal death rate of 5.6 per 1,000 live births occurred.

CRUDE AND AGE-ADJUSTED RATES FOR THE THREE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

Heart Disease

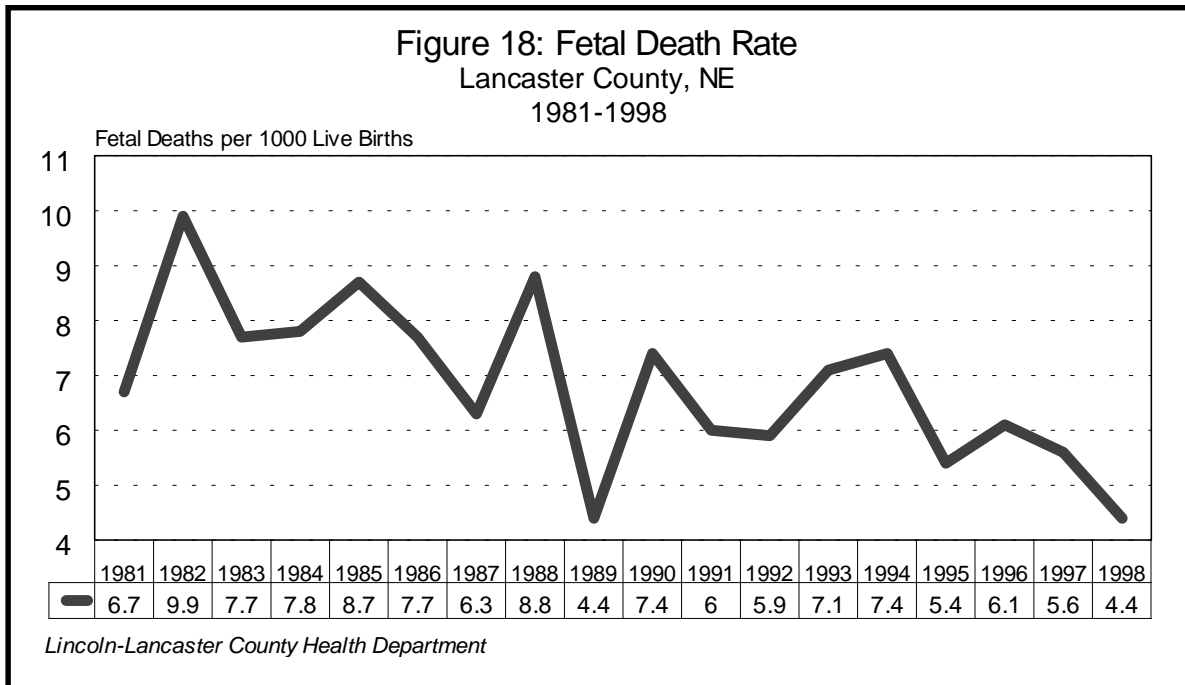
In 1998, 439 (27.7% of deaths) Lancaster County residents died of heart disease. These 439 deaths translate into a crude death rate due to heart disease of 186.3 per 100,000 estimated population.

TABLE 22.
Infant Deaths by Race and Sex
Lancaster County, 1998

Race	Male	Female	Total
White	8	13	21
Black	3	1	4
All Other	0	1	1
TOTAL	11	15	26

TABLE 23.
Infant Deaths by Cause and Sex
Lancaster County, 1998

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Anomalies	4	3	7
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	1	2	3
Disorders of Digestive System	1	1	2
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	2	0	2
Other	4	10	14
TOTAL	11	15	26



The average crude death rate for heart disease from 1994 through 1998 was 200.6 per 100,000. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services reported an average crude death rate for heart disease of 305.9 per 100,000 population for the State of Nebraska between 1994 and 1998.

The 1998 Nebraska Vital Statistics Report lists Nebraska's age-adjusted death rate for heart disease as 171.0 per 100,000 population for 1998, and 181.7 per 100,000 for 1994 through 1998. Using the same age-adjusted method, Lancaster County's age-adjusted death rates for heart disease were lower: 146.5 per 100,000 for 1998 and 154.0 per 100,000 for 1994-1998.

Cancer

In 1998, 367 (23.2% of total deaths) Lancaster County residents died of cancer. These 367 deaths translate into a crude death rate due to cancer of 155.8 per 100,000 estimated population. This compares to an average crude death rate of 166.5 per 100,000 population for 1994 through 1998. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services reported an average crude death rate due to cancer of 203.3 per 100,000 estimated population for the State of Nebraska between 1994 and 1998.

The Nebraska Vital Statistics Report lists Nebraska's age-adjusted death rate for cancer as 150.7 per 100,000 population for 1998, and 151.1 per 100,000 for 1994 through 1998. It cites similar rates for Lancaster County: 150.1 per 100,000 for 1998 and 154.6 per 100,000 for 1994 through 1998.

Cerebrovascular Disease

In 1998, 104 (6.6% of total deaths) Lancaster County residents died of cerebrovascular disease. These 104 deaths translate into a crude death rate due to cerebrovascular disease of 44.1 per 100,000 estimated population. This compares to an average crude death rate of 49.6 per 100,000 estimated population for 1994 through 1998. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services reported an average crude death rate due to cerebrovascular disease of 70.2 per 100,000 estimated population for the State of Nebraska between 1994 and 1998.

The 1998 Nebraska Vital Statistics Report states that for the State of Nebraska the age-adjusted death rate for cerebrovascular disease was 40.1 per 100,000 population for 1998, and 38.8 per 100,000 for 1994 through 1998. Rates for Lancaster County were lower: 33.1 per 100,000 for 1998 and 35.6 per 100,000 for 1994 through 1998.

****Note: To compare death rates from different populations (Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska), age-adjusted rates should be used.***

DEATHS DUE TO UNINTENTIONAL INJURY

In 1998, 66 deaths occurred (4.2% of total deaths) due to unintentional injury in Lancaster County. The average ages for male and female deaths were 49.9 and 61.0 years, respectively. Males represented 65.2% of all deaths, compared to 34.8% for females (Table 24). Motor vehicle traffic crashes (51.5%) were the leading cause of deaths due to unintentional injury in 1998, followed by falls (22.7%).

TABLE 24.
Unintentional Injury Deaths by Principal Cause
Lancaster County, 1998

Principal Cause	Frequency
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash	34
Falls	15
Submersion, Suffocation, or Foreign Bodies	5
Poisoning by Drugs	5
Other Unintentional Injury	7
Total Unintentional Injury Death	66
Average Age:	Male = 49.9 Female = 61.0
Sex:	Males = 43 (65.2%) Female = 23 (34.8%)

DISPOSITION AND PLACE OF DEATH

The most frequent disposition of a body was burial (73.0%), followed by cremation (24.3%) (Table 25). The most frequent place of death was in a nursing home (37.2%), followed by a hospital or medical center-inpatient (28.9%) (Table 26).

TABLE 25.
Disposition of Body
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Burial	1155	73.0%
Cremation	384	24.3%
Removal	25	1.6%
Donation	15	0.9%
Unknown	3	0.2%
TOTAL	1582	100.0

TABLE 26.
Place of Death
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Place of Death</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent*</u>
Nursing Home	589	37.2%
Hospital or Medical Center - Inpatient	457	28.9%
Residence	371	23.5%
Hospital or Medical Center - Outpatient/ER	111	7.0%
Dead on Arrival at Hospital or Medical Center	5	0.3%
Other Facilities	49	3.1%
TOTAL**	1582	100.0

TABLE 27. SUMMARY OF RESIDENT DEATH STATISTICS FROM 1984 TO 1998, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE

1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
NUMBER OF DEATHS														
Lancaster County														
1365	1432	1418	1399	1487	1508	1500	1494	1494	1512	1617	1537	1675	1563	1582
Lincoln														
1243	1331	1302	1274	1387	1394	1371	1370	1339	1410	1483	1409	1558	1438	1468
Balance of County														
122	101	116	125	100	114	129	124	155	102	134	128	117	125	114
RACE														
White														
98.2%	97.4%	97.3%	97.5%	97.9%	97.9%	97.9%	98.2%	97.6%	97.4%	97.8%	97.7%	96.2%	96.2%	97.7%
Black														
1.4%	1.7%	1.6%	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	1.3%	1.6%	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	2.4%	2.2%	1.3%
Other														
0.4%	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%	0.8%	1.0%	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	1.4%	1.5%	1.0%
SEX														
Male														
48.8%	50.0%	49.5%	48.9%	50.4%	50.1%	47.8%	45.5%	49.6%	48.3%	47.8%	47.5%	48.4%	46.4%	47.6%
Female														
51.2%	50.0%	50.5%	51.1%	49.6%	49.9%	52.2%	54.5%	50.4%	51.7%	52.2%	52.5%	51.6%	53.6%	52.4%
AGE														
Under 1														
2.3%	2.2%	2.1%	2.7%	2.1%	1.7%	1.5%	1.7%	1.6%	2.1%	1.4%	1.3%	1.6%	1.2%	1.6%
1-14														
0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	1.3%	0.4%	0.5%	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	0.5%	0.9%	0.3%	0.7%	0.4%	0.8%
15-29														
2.4%	2.8%	3.1%	2.4%	2.2%	3.2%	2.5%	1.2%	2.8%	2.4%	2.0%	2.1%	2.1%	1.8%	1.5%
30-44														
2.8%	2.9%	3.7%	2.9%	3.9%	3.1%	4.6%	4.5%	5.2%	4.8%	6.1%	4.6%	4.4%	5.5%	4.4%
45-59														
9.6%	8.3%	9.3%	8.4%	9.1%	8.4%	8.4%	7.9%	7.9%	9.5%	8.8%	7.3%	9.6%	9.7%	10.3%
60 & Over														
82.1%	83.0%	81.0%	82.3%	82.3%	83.0%	81.9%	83.9%	81.6%	80.8%	80.8%	84.4%	81.6%	81.4%	81.4%
AVERAGE AGE AT DEATH														
Male														
67.4	68.3	67.2	67.9	68.0	69.0	67.6	69.0	68.2	67.8	67.9	69.5	68.3	69.2	68.8
Female														
76.3	75.2	75.0	75.4	76.0	75.1	76.3	77.2	75.1	76.4	76.1	77.9	77.6	77.1	76.4
Total														
71.9	71.7	71.2	71.8	72.0	72.0	72.1	73.5	71.7	72.2	72.1	73.9	73.1	73.4	72.8
DEATH RATE														
Deaths per 1000 Population														
6.7	7.1	7.0	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.3	6.7	7.2	6.7	6.7
INFANT DEATHS														
32	32	30	38	31	26	23	25	24	31	22	20	27	18	26
INFANT MORTALITY RATE														
10.0	10.3	10.0	12.6	10.4	8.2	7.4	7.8	7.8	9.6	7.0	6.3	8.2	5.6	7.7
Deaths per 1000 Live Births														
NEONATAL DEATHS														
19	23	22	22	16	16	13	13	10	19	16	17	17	13	21
NEONATAL DEATH RATE														
5.9	7.4	7.4	6.0	5.4	5.0	7.4	4.1	3.3	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	4.0	6.2
FETAL DEATHS														
25	27	23	19	26	14	23	19	18	23	23	17	20	18	15
FETAL DEATH RATE														
7.8	8.7	7.7	6.3	8.8	4.4	7.4	6.0	5.9	7.1	7.4	5.4	6.1	5.6	4.4

MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS

MARRIAGE RATE

There were 1870 marriages in Lancaster County in 1998. This translates into a rate of 7.9 per 1000 population. The Nebraska rate was 7.6 per 1000 in 1998. The marriage rates for Nebraska and Lancaster County have remained relatively stable for the past five years (Figure 19).

The most common months of marriage were August, May, and June respectively (Table 28).

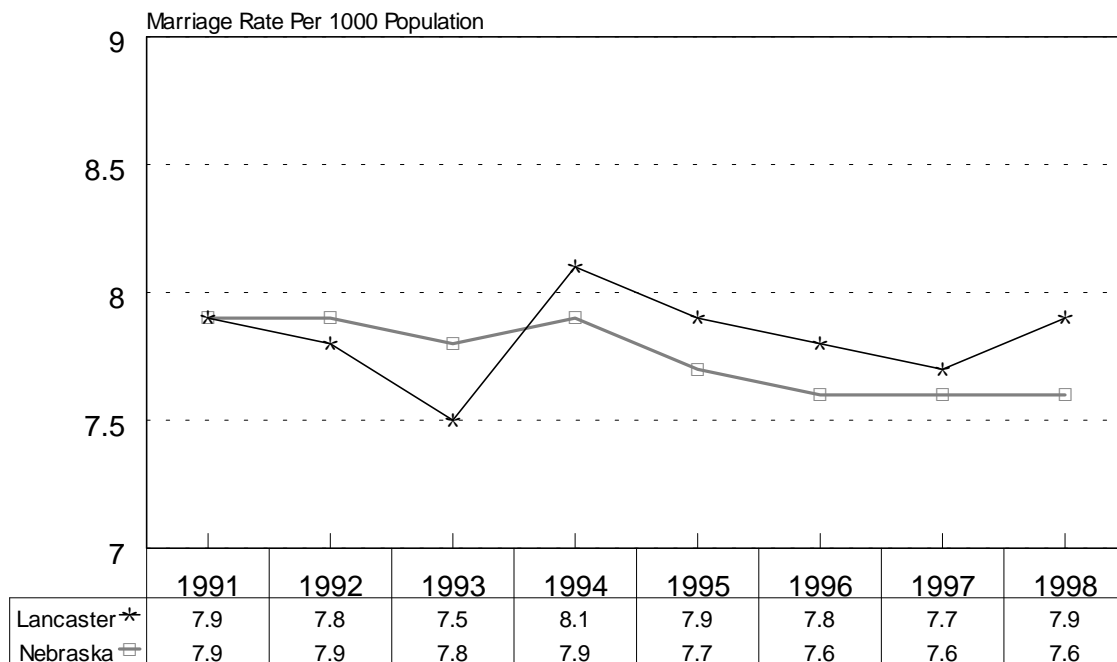
AGE AND RACE

In 1998, 1709 (91.4%) grooms and 1749 (93.5%) brides were White. The remaining 158 grooms and 118 brides were of other races. Three grooms and three brides did not report race (Table 29). In 1998, the mean (average) age for Lancaster County

TABLE 28.
Marriages by Month
Lancaster County, 1998

<u>Month</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>
January	62	3.3
February	76	4.1
March	92	4.9
April	119	6.4
May	248	13.3
June	221	11.8
July	187	10.0
August	251	13.4
September	203	10.9
October	172	9.2
November	114	6.1
December	125	6.7
TOTAL	1870	100.0

Figure 19: Marriage Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

grooms was 31.2 years. The mean age for brides was 29.0 years.

The mean marriage age of White males and females was 31.2 and 29.1 years, respectively. The mean age for Black males and females was 31.4 and 30.2 years, respectively. The mean marriage age for American Indian males and females was 34.0 and 35.7, respectively. The mean marriage age was 30.4 for Asian males and 27.3 for Asian females.

EDUCATION

Grooms and brides had a mean education of 14.2 years or two years of education beyond high

school. The most frequent educational level was equivalent to a high school education (12 years).

DIVORCE RATE

The 1998 marriage/divorce ratio in Lancaster County was 1.8/1 (Table 30), indicating that there were 1.8 times as many marriages as divorces.

There were 1029 divorces in Lancaster County in 1998. This represents a rate of 4.4 per 1,000 population, a rate similar to those of the previous decade (Figure 20). The 1998 divorce rate for Nebraska was 3.6 per 1000 population.

Among males divorced in 1998, 67.2% were divorced for the first time, while among females, 65.2% were divorced for the first time.

AGE AND RACE

The average age of divorced males was 38.8 years and the average age of divorced females was 36.4 years. The median age of divorced males was 38.0 years, while the median age of divorced females was 36.0 years. The average age of first time divorced males and females was 36.1 and 34.0 years, respectively.

Of the divorces where race was reported in 1998, 93.4% of divorces involved White males and 95.5% of divorces involved White females. Marriage/divorce ratios ranged from 1.5 for Black males to 6.4 for Asian males (Table 30).

SETTLEMENT

In 1998, divorce settlements ranged from no settlement to alimony, child support, property, or a combination of settlements. Table 32 lists the types and frequencies of divorce settlements. Divorces most commonly involved property settlement only (39.3%) or property settlement and child support (34.3%).

TABLE 29.
Marriage by Sex and Race
Lancaster County, 1998

	<u>Males</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>%</u>
White	1709	91.4	1749	93.5
Black	85	4.5	44	2.4
Am. Indian	8	0.4	7	0.4
Asian	64	3.4	66	3.5
Other/Unk	4	0.2	4	0.2
TOTAL	1870	100.0	1870	100.0

TABLE 30.
Marriage/Divorce Ratio
Race of Male
Lancaster County, 1998

	<u>Number of</u> <u>Marriages/Divorces</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
White	1709/945	1.8/1
Black	85/55	1.5/1
Am Indian	8/2	4.0/1
Asian	64/10	6.4/1
Other	4/17	0.2/1
TOTAL	1870/1029	1.8/1

CHILDREN OF DIVORCE & CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

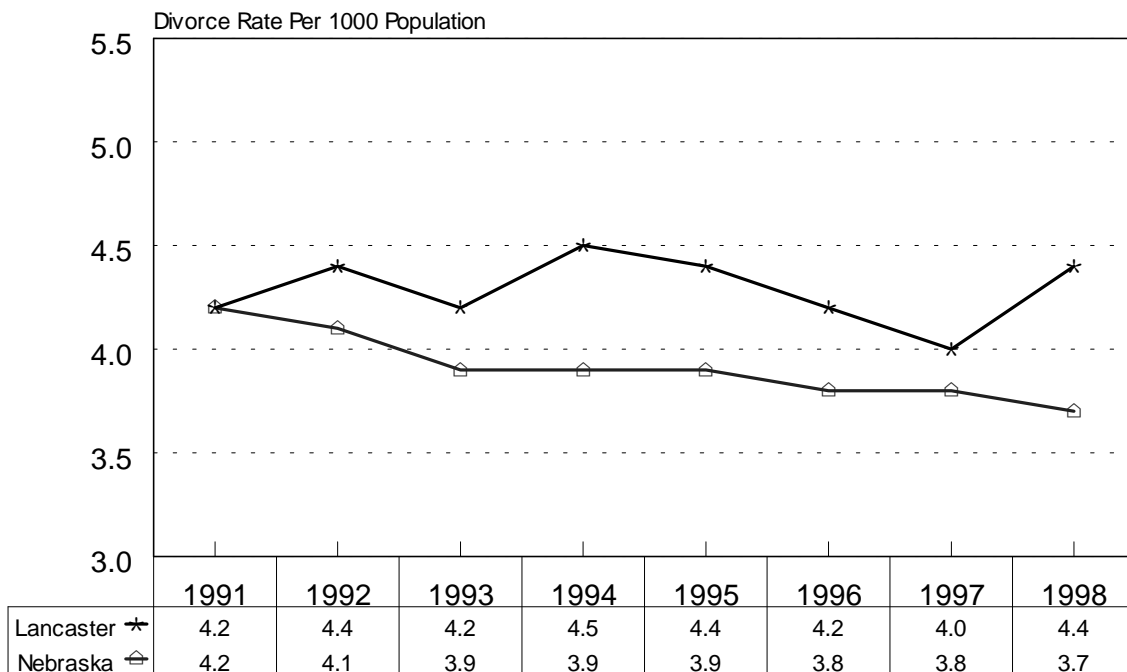
Of the 1029 divorces in 1998, 545 (53.0%) occurred in households with children under the age of 18. These divorces involved 976 children (0.9 children per divorce).

Of the 545 divorce settlements involving children during 1998, the divorced woman was awarded exclusive custody of all or

TABLE 31.
Number of Times Married At Time Of Divorce
Males and Females
Lancaster County, 1998

Times Married	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
1	692	67.2	671	65.2
2	237	23.0	229	22.3
3	63	6.1	82	8.0
4	7	0.7	14	1.4
5	3	0.3	7	0.7
6 or More	0	0.0	2	0.2
Not Classifiable	27	2.6	24	2.3
TOTAL	1029	100.0	1029	100.0

Figure 20: Divorce Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 1998



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

some children in 424 (77.9%) of the cases.

Divorced men were awarded exclusive custody of some or all children in 55 (10.1%) of these divorces.

In 63 (11.6%) of divorces, joint custody was awarded for some of all of the children. In 3 (0.6%) of divorces, some or all children were awarded to a party other than the divorced man or woman.

TABLE 32.
Types of Settlements
Lancaster County, 1998

	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
None	99	9.6
Alimony Only	1	0.1
Child Support Only	55	5.3
Property Settlement Only	404	39.3
Alimony and Child Support	5	0.5
Alimony and Property Settlement	55	5.3
Child Support and Property Settlement	353	34.3
Alimony, Child Support, & Property	57	5.5
TOTAL	1029	100.0

DEFINITIONS

BIRTHS

APGAR SCORE - A system of scoring (10 is the best and 0 is the worst) the physical condition of an infant one minute and five minutes after birth. The conditions tested include the heart rate, respiration, muscle tone, response to stimuli, and color.

BIRTH ORDER - The number of live born children, including the current birth.

BIRTH RATE - The number of live births per 1,000 population.

FERTILITY RATE - The number of births per 1,000 women, age 15 to 44 years.

LENGTH OF PREGNANCY - The duration of gestation, in completed weeks, as calculated from the first day of the last normal menses to the date of birth.

LIVE BIRTH - The complete expulsion or extraction of a product of conception from its mother, irrespective of the period of gestation, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached and is reportable.

LOW-WEIGHT BIRTH - A live born infant weighing 5 1/2 pounds or less.

NON-MARITAL BIRTH RATE - The number of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births.

DEATHS

AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATE - A weighted averaging of a crude death rate according to a standard age distribution. An age-adjusted death rate represents what the crude death rate would be if the population for which the rate is adjusted and the standard population had the same age distribution. This procedure allows for the comparison of death rates among populations having different age distributions. The death rates in this report have been adjusted according to the age distribution of the U.S. population in 1990.

CRUDE DEATH RATE - The number of deaths from all causes per 1,000 population.

FETAL DEATH - Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction of a product of conception from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Until the pregnancy has reached 20 weeks duration, it is not required that such a death be reported.

FETAL DEATH RATE - The number of fetal deaths per 1,000 live births.

INFANT DEATH - Death of a person under one year of age.

MATERNAL DEATH - Death attributable to delivery or the complications of pregnancy, childbirth or the puerperium.

MATERNAL DEATH RATE - The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

NEONATAL DEATH - Death of a person under 28 days of age.

OCCURRENCE - The location in which an event takes place irrespective of the usual residence of persons involved.

RESIDENCE - A person's usual place of abode. This means, in general, the place where one lives and sleeps most of the time. However, when usual residence is in a nursing home or other institution, residence is considered the place where the person lived prior to admission to the institution.